

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, an ever-increasing number of cities are going “green,” including Charleston; and,

WHEREAS, sustainability is a defining issue today, representing the broad notion that all activities should take into account implications for people and the environment so that actions meet the needs of the current generation without compromising future generations; and,

WHEREAS, the nation’s cities are innovators in implementing energy conservation and environmental protection programs to support their communities and the national economy; and,

WHEREAS, local governments recognize they have a central role to play in affecting change, but need the support and cooperation of the federal government. By including funds for the block grant program, municipal leaders will be able to expand their efforts to support building and home energy conservation programs, and improve energy efficiency; and,

WHEREAS, as part of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 that became law last December, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant is a resource to provide grants to cities and towns for innovative practices designed to achieve greater energy efficiency and lower energy usage. The law authorizes an appropriation of up to \$2 billion per year through 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the grants awarded under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant would fund local initiatives including building and home energy conservation programs, energy audits, fuel conservation programs, building retrofits to increase energy efficiency, “smart growth” planning and zoning and alternative energy programs; and,

WHEREAS, the program can be used to help cities undertake environmentally-friendly initiatives, such as updating building codes and old buildings, adopting renewable energy solutions, creating incentives for citizens to use transportation alternatives and implementing energy saving campaigns;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor, City of Charleston, and Charleston City Council does hereby recommend that Congress appropriate \$2 billion to fund the new Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant for the fiscal year 2009.

WHEREAS, a variety of challenges have brought increased attention and timeliness to sustainability, including the threat of climate change, rising energy prices and the depletion of natural resources.

Done this ____ day of _____ 2008.

Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor
City of Charleston

ATTEST:

Vanessa Turner-Maybank
Clerk of Council